

# Caledonian Mercury

EDINBURGH, MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 1783.

**UNIVERSAL SCOTS ALMANACK.**  
For the Year 1783.  
EMBELISHED WITH  
A MAP OF SCOTLAND.  
PRINCIPAL ROADS.

Great care has been taken to render this Map accurate and distinct. Not only the principal towns, but all the different villages are particularly set down, with the exact number of houses, and the names of the proprietors. It is therefore hoped it will be found extremely convenient and useful, especially to such Gentlemen as have frequent occasion to be in the country.

**CANONGATE POOR.**  
ON SUNDAY last there was an EXTRAORDINARY COLLECTION at the Church-door of CANONGATE, for relief of the Poor.

OF late, a partial supply has been obtained, by a particular application to a number of the most affluent inhabitants, who have not an opportunity of contributing at the Public Collection. The Managers of the Poor are joyful to observe, that the supply granted is not inadequate to the necessary demands. As there may be still some who have not been applied to, who may be willing to bestow their charity, and others who, in this season of general scarcity, may be inclined to enlarge their benefactions, it is entreated that those thus liberally disposed would be pleased to send what they are pleased to allow to Mr. James Wood, Buchanan's Land, Canongate Head, Treasurer to the Poor-House.

**FOREIGN APPLES.**  
TO BE SOLD by JOHN GRANT, at his Warehouse, foot of Quality Street, Leith.

RENNETS, PIPPINS, APPLES OF PARADISE, &c.  
Likewise, ENGLISH NONPAREILS, RUSSETS, and various other kinds.  
RUSSIA SOAP—SELTZER WATERS.

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS.**  
THE Creditors of WILLIAM HAY of Newhall, now deceased, are desired to lodge their grounds of debt, with oaths on the verity thereof, in the hands of Mr. David Russell accountant in Edinburgh, the trustee, or James Key writer there, without loss of time, so that the division of Mr. Hay's estate, now sold, may be made.

**GEORGE TOMLINSON.**  
Late of the KINGSTON ARMS INN, NEWARK.  
BEGS leave to return his sincere thanks to the Nobility, Gentry, &c. who have honoured him with their favours heretofore; and, at the same time, respectfully informs them, he has removed his POST CHAISE and HORSES, from the Kingston Arms, to the Ram Inn in Newark, where he humbly solicits their future countenance; as he assures them, every exertion in his power will be used to make the NEW POST HOUSE eligible and agreeable.

**L O N D O N.**  
Extract of a letter from New-York, Nov. 5.

"The following narrative of the exertions and sufferings of Lieutenant James Moody, in the cause of Government in North America, has been lately published here:

"In the end of October, 1781, Major Beckwith, Aid-de-Camp to General Knyphausen, came and informed Lieutenant Moody, that one Addison had been with him on a project of high moment. It was nothing less than to bring off the most important books and papers of Congress. This Addison was an Englishman, and had been employed in some inferior department, under Mr. Thompson, the Secretary to the Congress. He was then a prisoner; and the plan was, that he should be immediately exchanged, return in the usual manner to Philadelphia, and there resume his old employment. The Lieutenant was abundantly careful, and even scrupulous, in his enquiries concerning the man's character, on which head Major Beckwith expressed the most entire confidence; and observed, that Addison was equally cautious respecting the characters of those who were to attend him.

"The matter was of importance; and Lieut. Moody was confident, that though it might be difficult to perform his part of the business, yet it was not impracticable. He resolved, however, as Addison might think him worth betraying, that he should not be informed of his consenting to be of the party. If any other person did inform him of it, he was, to say the least, very imprudent. The Lieutenant pitched upon his only brother, and another faithful American soldier, for this arduous enterprise. Their first instructions were to wait on Addison, and to bind him, as they themselves had been bound, to mutual secrecy and fidelity, by an oath, which the Lieutenant had always administered to his followers in all his expeditions, when the importance of the object rendered such an additional necessity; and which clearly shews the principles of honour and humanity on which it was his uniform pride and purpose to act.

"After taking this oath, a certain number of nights was agreed on, in which Addison was to expect them; and a certain place also appointed where he was to meet them. In such an adventure, it was impossible to be exact to any time; but it was agreed, that if they failed of being at the place in any of the specified nights, he should no longer expect them; and they further promised, by proper means, to assist him, if possible, if any accident should befall them, to either delay or wholly put an end to their project.

"This being thus settled, Addison left New-York in due form and manner, as was generally supposed, in order to return to his former friends and employment; and at the proper time, Lieutenant Moody and his friends followed him. The manner and circumstances of their march is not material, nor proper here to relate; suffice it to say, that on the night of the 7th of November, the first in the order of those that had been appointed, they arrived in the neighbourhood of Philadelphia, but on the opposite side of the river. They found Addison already on the spot, waiting for them according to appointment. Lieutenant Moody kept a little back, at such a distance as not to have his person distinguished, yet so as to be within hearing of the conversation that passed. His brother, and Mr. Moody's associate, on going up to Addison, found him apparently full of confidence, and in high spirits, and every thing seemed to promise success. He told them, that their plot was perfectly ripe for execution; that he had secured the means of admission into the most private recesses of the State-house, so that he should be able the next evening to deliver to them the papers they were in quest of. They, on their parts, assured him that every necessary precaution had been taken to secure and expedite their retreat; and that they had with them a sure friend, who would wait for them on that side of the river, who, as well as themselves, would die by his side, rather than desert him, should any disaster befall him. He replied, that they should find him as true and faithful to them and their cause, as they themselves could possibly be. Soon after they crossed the river together to Philadelphia; and it is probable, that on the passage Addison was for the first time informed, that this friend was Lieut. Moody. Whether it was this first discovery that put it first into his head, or whether he had all along intended it, and had already taken the necessary previous steps, the Lieutenant cannot certainly say; but he assures himself, that every generous-minded man will be shocked when he reads, that this perfidious wretch had either sold or was about to sell them to the Congress.

"As the precise time in which they should be able to execute their plan could not be ascertained, it was agreed that Lieutenant Moody should remain at the Ferry-house, opposite to Philadelphia, till they returned. On going into the house, he told the mistress of it, by a convenient equivocation, that he was an officer of the Jersey brigade, and that he was, though of the Jersey brigade which was in the King's service. The woman understood him as speaking of a rebel corps, which was also called the Jersey brigade. To avoid notice, he pretended to be indolgent; and going up stairs, he threw himself upon a bed, and here continued to keep his room, but always awake, and always on the watch. Next morning, about eleven o'clock, he saw a man walk hastily up to the house, and overheard him telling some person he met at the door, that 'there was the devil to pay in Philadelphia; there had been a plot to break into the State-house, but that one of the party had betrayed the others; that two were already taken; and that a party of soldiers had just crossed the river with him, to seize their leader, who was said to be thereabouts.' The Lieutenant found himself to be too nearly interested in this intelligence, any longer to keep up the appearance of a sick man; and seizing his pistols, he instantly ran down stairs, and made his escape. He had not got 100 yards from the house, when he saw the soldiers enter it. A small piece of wood lay before him, in which he hoped at least to be out of sight, and he had sprung the fence in order to enter it. But it was already lined by a party of horses, with a view of cutting off his retreat; thus surrounded, all hopes of flight were in vain; and to seek for a hiding place, in a clear open field, seemed equally useless. Drowning persons are said to catch at straws: with hardly a hope of escaping a moment longer undiscovered, he threw himself flat on his face in a ditch, which yet seemed of all places the least calculated for concealment, for it was without weeds or shrubs, and so shallow that a quail might be seen in it. Once more he had reason to moralize on the vanity of all human contrivance and confidence; yet, as Providence ordered it, the improbability of the place proved the means of his security. He had lain there but a few minutes, when six of his pursuers passed within ten feet of him, and very diligently examined a thicket part of the ditch that was but a few paces from him. With his pistols cocked he kept his eye constantly on them, determining, that as soon as he saw himself to be discovered by any one of them, he would instantly spring up, and sell his life as dearly as might be, and refusing to be taken alive, provoke, and, if possible, force them to kill him. Once or twice he thought he saw one of the soldiers look at him, and he was on the point of shooting the man; but reflecting that possibly, though the soldier did see, yet he might have the humanity not to discover him, as he would vain hope was really the case, his heart smote him for his rash resolution; and he thanks God that he was restrained from putting it into execution.

"From the ditch they went all round the adjacent field; and as Lieutenant Moody sometimes a little raised up his head, he saw them frequently running their bayonets into some small stacks of Indian corn fodder. This suggested to him an idea, that if he could escape till night, a place they had already explored would be the safest shelter for him. When night came, he got into one of those stacks. The wind was high, which prevented the rustling of the leaves of the fodder, as he entered, from being heard by the people, who were at that time passing close by him into the country in quest of him. His position in this retreat was very uncomfortable, for he could neither sit or lie down. In this erect posture, however, he remained two nights and two days without a morsel of food, for

there was no corn on the stalks, and which was infinitely more intolerable, without drink. He must not relate, for reasons which may be easily imagined, what became of him immediately after his coming out of this uneasy prison; but he will venture to inform the reader, that on the fifth night after the escape from the Ferry-house, he searched the banks of the Delaware, till he had the good fortune to meet with a small boat, into this he jumped, and having waited a little for the time of flood, which was near, he pulled off, and rowed a considerable way up the river. During this voyage he was several times accosted by people on the water; but, having often found the benefit of putting on a fearless air, he endeavoured to answer them in their own way, and recollecting some of the less polished phrases of the gentlemen of the country, he used them pretty liberally; and thus was suffered to pass on unsuspected. In due time he left his boat, and, relying on the aid of the Loyalists, some of whom he knew were every where to be found, he went into a part of the country least known to him; and the least likely for him to have thought of; and at length, after many circuitous marches, all in the night, and through pathless courses, in about five days, he once more arrived safe in New-York.

"All these efforts for life were dictated, it would seem, rather by instinct than reason; for, occupied as his mind had been for his own danger and his sufferings, he can truly say, his greatest uneasiness was on account of his brother. There was not a ray of hope that he could escape, and left, if possible, that he would be pardoned. He was the son of his old age to a most worthy and beloved father, who had himself been a soldier, and who loved and honoured the profession. Indeed, he was a most amiable young man, as remarkable for sweetness of disposition as for his undaunted intrepidity. Excellent youth! every feeling heart will forgive the tear which is now dropped to thy memory, by thy sorrowing brother; he perished by an ignominious death in the 23d year of his age; the news of which, as may naturally be supposed, well nigh brought the grey hairs of a venerable father with sorrow to the grave. It did not indeed immediately cost him his life, but it cost him what is more valuable—his reason! His fellow-prisoner was also sentenced to death; but on making some pretended discoveries, of no considerable moment, he was reprieved."

From the NEW-YORK GAZETTE.  
New York, Nov. 5.

Though one might have imagined that nothing could have given more joy to the party of Independents in the different colonies, than the consent of Great Britain to their having, as they stile it, a name among the nations; yet the truth is, that the creation of such a name in them as it does in the Loyalists, who always thought this imaginary blessing the heaviest curse that could befall this country. The objections that arise are as various as their apprehensions of its effects upon their interests and views. The most material are said to be these:

1st. It is supposed that the same treaty, which is to guarantee the Independence of the Thirteen Provinces, will secure to Great Britain what she already possesses, and the residue or extra provincial parts of North America, viz. East Florida on the South, Canada on the North, and the Indian country with the vast wilderness on the West; the regions of Nova Scotia on both sides of the Bay of Fundy, with Hudson's Bay, the Northern Islands, and the Fisheries; and thus surrounded by Loyalists, the Sovereignty expected appears to be no mighty boon.

2d. Many conceive it would be impossible, even with a more extensive dominion, to raise the immense sums requisite to satisfy the Loyalists; for the treaty proceeds in the highest confidence that such provision be made; and there have been millions sterling due to the British merchants and others, before the war, besides what will be necessary to compensate the sufferers in America, for their disapprobation of the measures which have brought on the public calamities.

3d. Others are alarmed at the demands that are to follow for the debts to the French Governors and Merchants, as well as to other nations, who will have their money, or pledges, of great danger to the ease and security of new Republics.

4th. The American soldiery perceive the vanity of the promises of their vast arrears of pay, and of the land premiums they have been led to expect, in the luxury of liberty beyond the Blue Mountains.

5th. The Congressional creditors are in pain, both for their interest and principal, apprised as they are already of the general opinion, that the money was gained by fraudulent and artful speculations, and out of the property of widows and orphans.

6th. Still less do the herd of purchasers of confiscated estates see ground to hope for an indemnity, to restore what they are to give up, by a general tax; jobbers as they were in paper and certificates, obtained for trifling considerations from a needy and cheated soldiery.

7th. The merchants too are under the keelest anxieties; as they can have no kind of claim upon the community at large for what they owe abroad, and hoped, by raising these destructive commotions, to put into their own pockets. Besides, they foresee a farther objection, from their privateering profits in the course of the war. And,

8th. As the independency will be no sooner attained than its emptiness discovered by an experimental illumination of the meanest understanding, perhaps no class of men feel greater apprehensions than those who have been the chief instruments in gulling on their countrymen to contend for this phantom; and these are they (with some others, interested against peace at any rate) that are letting up the cry of British insidiousness, for a temporary safety, until they can find a door of escape. Happy for them, if, with the return of peace, there should be a revival of so much good humour in the majority of the multitudes of all parties, as to restrain the wrath they have incited; and the best way of accomplishing it seems to be so obvious, as none can want sagacity to discover, after the close





roof they have of the general aversion to their *quandam* and ruinous politics, by the refusal of all the provinces but three, to contribute to the monstrous taxes they have imposed for the prosecution of the war; for (if we may rely upon the returns of their own treasurers) of the eight millions of dollars exacted for the current year, but 20,000 were paid in on the 1st inst., and of these but 1600 could be levied in all the populous regions of New York and New England; though the latter, speaking comparatively, has scarcely felt any of the severities of the war, and yet stands accused by all the rest of the provinces as immensely in arrears.

From the London Papers, Jan. 2.

*Virena, Dec. 14.* In consequence of the proposition of a certain power, but Court interests itself strenuously, and in an efficacious manner, towards bringing about a general peace, and it is hoped that the efforts of our Ministry will have some influence. In the mean time, preparations have been making lately, which induces us to believe, that affairs on the frontiers of Turkey are in a fermentation.

*Utrecht, Dec. 26.* It was agreed in the last Assembly of Holland, to send a Minister from the Republic to Philadelphia, and agreed upon to allow him from the Treasury of that province alone, 10,000 florins for his equipage, and 20,000 florins annually, provided that the Minister be of their nomination. There are now in the Sound 155 sail, bound for the North Sea, and amongst them a ship of 74 guns, two frigates, one snow, one cutter, and 175 merchantmen, belonging to the British nation.

*Utrecht, Dec. 27.* A resolution of their High Mightinesses the States-General, dated the 9th instant, concerning the English packet-boat the *Dolphin*, Captain Flynn, which was stopped by order of the province of Zealand, authorises the College of Admiralty of that province, to admit the claim of the said Captain or his assignees, if they apply for it. And their High Mightinesses order that the ships of war, and other commissioned by the States, as well as privateers, do not interrupt, till further notice, the English correspondence with the Republic. Their High Mightinesses also order, that respect be paid between Dover and Calais, to the four packet-boats which the most Christian King hath furnished with his passports.

They write from Surat, dated October 8, that if the English had not destroyed the settlement which we had there, it would not, however, have subsisted, as on the 3d of the same month, a terrible hurricane destroyed every thing, sparing neither men, houses, nor shipping; it began south-east, and ended north-west, with the same fury. One single Moorish merchant hath lost in the port three ships, two of which were richly laden for Baffora, and the third arrived from China. A number of others have been swallowed up. The whirlwind also swept into the sea upwards of 3000 poor inhabitants, who, at the beginning of the disaster, had taken refuge between Surat and Dornus.

P. S. We just now learn that the Count de Bylandt hath refused the command of our fleet in the Texel, and that Vice-Admiral Keynt hat accepted of it.

#### L O N D O N.

No advices have been received by the East India Company, containing any account of an engagement between Sir Eyre Coote and Heider Ali. Their last over-land dispatches mention, indeed, that a supply of cattle going from Madras to the English army had been intercepted. From this, the doer of the *Brussels Gazette* has invented the tale of his being surrounded.

There was a very numerous Court at St James's, when their Majesties received the compliments of the nobility, &c. on account of the being New Year's Day. There were present his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Duke of Cumberland, a great number of nobility, and all the foreign Ministers; the Court did not break up till near five o'clock. Previous to the Court at St James's, a Privy Council was held at the Queen's Palace.

A letter from Cadix, by the way of France, says, that another insurrection was upon the point of breaking out in Quito in Peru; but was happily discovered just time enough to prevent it; that the natives had laid a plan to destroy the Spaniards, without any regard to either age or sex. It is added, that a fleet of men of war, with a body of troops, were preparing to sail for South America.

By two private letters from Paris on Tuesday, we learn, that peace is the general voice, and that the only cause which hinders this event is the appearance of difference between France and Spain; the old quarrel concerning Jamaica was like to be revived, and without a speedy cessation of arms by all the belligerent powers, it was the general opinion that the House of Bourbon would soon differ about trifles. The Queen's party has not its wonted strength; the mercantile interest has more to say than ever; the loan is begged, not demanded.

A private letter from Brest says, that an order is arrived there to stop the sailing of the men of war which were designed for the West India service; on what account is not known, but it is imagined that some turn of affairs has taken place in the French Council relative to a peace.

The alarms felt by the public for Gibraltar begin now to subside. It was feared, that as our Ministers did not boggle at giving up the Thirteen Colonies of North America, in order to procure peace, they would not have made a scruple of throwing up Gibraltar into the bargain, sooner than be disappointed in the great wish of their heart; but having felt the pulse of the nation on this subject, and finding the public took fire at the idea of surrendering Gibraltar, after all the glory acquired by the noble defence of it, they are said to have assured the Court of Spain, that Gibraltar must be left out of the treaty, as they found the torrent of opinion at home too much against the cession of it, that no English Minister would dare to give it up. Report says, that the Court of Madrid, finding that our Ministers having made up their mind on this point, and were inflexible in their resolution to adhere to their determination, have given up their demand of Gibraltar; by what other means Spain is to be satisfied, remains yet a profound secret.

This morning some dispatches were received from Jersey, which were brought in the *Phoenix*, arrived at Portsmouth. They gave an account of a rich Spanish ship being taken, and carried in by one of their privateers. It was yesterday currently reported, and generally believed, that the well-end of the town, that the preliminaries of peace between all the belligerent powers were either actually signed, or would be so in the course of a few days.

The conduct of the American Congress, and of their General Washington, to Capt. Asgill, during his confinement, is strongly characteristic of the dispositions of both. The compelling Capt. Asgill, and the other officers who surrendered

prisoners of war upon capitulation, to cast lots, was a disgraceful breach of honour, perpetrated to gratify a spirit of inhumanity. Though the people that had access to him during his confinement took the language of compassion, the honourable gentleman, whose prison he was, never failed to lend him assistance every six or eight days to prepare for his execution, and Capt. Asgill felt him say, that he was already prepared to meet his fate, and desired to be troubled no more with such messages. Perhaps Capt. Asgill judged properly when he told some of the friends of Congress, who suggested to him a means of making his escape, and their readiness to get him conveyed into New York, that he believed that Congress would be very well pleased to make the attempt, rather than that they might get out of the scrape by his effecting his escape, or afford him a pretence for his immediate execution if he was caught; but he considered, that if he did get into New York his brother officers would be exposed to a repetition of the disgraceful business of casting lots, and therefore chose to await his fate, which would probably have been such as was threatened, if the Duke of Dorset had not found a channel to engage the French Minister to employ his interest. The Congress kept him a fortnight in suspense, after it was resolved to deliver him.

When the last advices came from America, no less than seventeen representatives from different parts of the northern colonies, particularly Connecticut and New Hampshire, had withdrawn from Congress, since the first of July last. This secession was partly owing to private pique, though the state of the country, in point of taxes, had given a general alarm to the whole body.

A correspondent, whose veracity we can depend on, assures us, that advice is received from America, that General Washington has been declared Lord Protector of the Commonwealth of America, and that he is fully invested with powers to act in that high and important office.

Dr Franklin has received a variety of pressing invitations, within the last six months, to return to his native country as soon as peace is settled. The principal reasons assigned for the request are, the wants of his great abilities to digest a code of new laws; in which work the Doctor has assured them of his readiness to give all the assistance he is able—but pleads age and infirmities as an excuse for his remaining in France, till he can conveniently return back to Old England.

The genius of the South Americans is far from equalling in point of spirit the military capacities of our Northern Colonies; they are a feeble race of people, enervated by climate, and almost incapable of making a distance at marches, as they were when Pizarro first invaded their country. This makes the Spaniards indifferent about all the reports of insurrections; while, on the other hand, they apprehend, that the Northern Americans will soon extend their conquests in that quarter, where there is so much to invite, and so little to oppose them.

All accounts agree, that the Dutch are most heartily tired of the present war. A dissatisfaction pervades all ranks of people.

Great numbers of manufacturers and mechanics have received extraordinary orders within these few days from many foreign markets, particularly from the neutral countries, in consequence of the general idea that prevails throughout Europe, of an approaching accommodation between the belligerent powers.

The last accounts from Barbadoes speak very favourably of the situation of that island; many of the works destroyed by the hurricane had been reconstructed, and the crops in general bore a very promising aspect in every quarter of the island.

The Prussian Envoy Extraordinary has made strong representations, in the name of the King his master, to the British Ministry, concerning the capture of a Prussian ship; and demanded the immediate release of the ship, and the restitution of the effects taken on board her. The Ministry, on their side, offered to the Envoy Extraordinary, to pay the whole value of the merchandise taken; but the latter refused to accept of it. In consequence, a ship was sent out in quest of the privateer, who had put to sea again, to learn of the Captain who he had sold the effects to; after which, the Captain was by force compelled to re-purchase the merchandise, the proprietor of which would not desert from, under an enormous price. The Envoy Extraordinary has demanded a guinea for every hour that the Prussian ship has been delayed on her voyage, to reckon from the moment that the privateer took her, until that when the ship shall put to sea again; adding, that the King his master gave notice, that for the future they must be more prudent; and not insult his flag any more, on any pretence whatsoever; for if such a case should happen, he would find himself obliged to retaliate by force the affront offered to his flag.

The Dutch fleet that sailed from the Texel in September last, which it was given out was intended to visit the coast of Africa, and after for a more distant quarter, which is known to be the East-Indies, consisted of the following ships: *Sand Beveland*, 60, Admiral Dedelle, Captain V. Vorste; *Utrecht*, 64, De Bergeim; *Schiedam*, 50, J. V. Gieller; *Goon*, 50, J. Kinkell; *Tigre*, 44, Le Staringe; *Hoorne*, 28, De Soumash; *Ourocke*, 20, Herpiste. There were 18 other vessels in company, chiefly East-Indiamen, laden with every kind of store; they carried out 2000 land forces, which were principally on board the men of war. The Dutch, it is conjectured, have sent out this force rather to protect their settlements in the East, than to join the French, or to commence operations; which last, with so small a force, would be wholly impracticable.

One very signal advantage attending the capture of the Spanish Squadron by Lord Rodney in 1780 was, that they were all new ships, being launched the very year they were taken. The *Gibraltar*, of 80 guns, which Sir Richard Bickerton is now on board of in the East Indies, was the *Phoenix*, the Spanish Admiral's ship; and the *Prince William*, now commanded by Captain Keppel in America, was the *Guipuscana*. All the vessels taken that year by the brave Rodney are now in actual service.

The *Atlas*, of 90 guns, now under sailing orders, is quite a new ship, and one of the fleet in the royal navy. She was only launched last year. The *Ganges* and *Goliath*, of 74 guns each, are also both new ships, the latter being launched only last year, and the former the preceding year. The *Diligence*, of 60 guns, also under orders for sailing, was built by the Spaniards in 1780. This was one of the ships taken by Lord Rodney off Cape St Vincent.

Of the naval force now about to leave Spithead, there are two ships of 98 guns, viz. the *Queen* and *Princess Royal*; two of 90, *Atlas* and *Blenheim*; one of 80, *Cambridge*; and ten of 74 guns; and all in as good order as the fleet which sailed to the relief of Gibraltar. The *Spartan* and *Pluto* fire-ships,

forming a part of the above force, were only launched last year.

The *Lively* privateer, belonging to Guernsey, is arrived safely, and has taken and carried in with her a French prize of 14 guns, after an obstinate engagement, which lasted upwards of an hour. The French lost all their masts, and had 10 men killed, and seven wounded. The *Lively* had one man killed, and five wounded.

An evening paper says, a gentleman of great veracity, consequence in Holland informs them, that a requisition on part of the States has been made to France for the withdrawal of their troops from the Cape and St Eustatius, which has absolutely been refused.

It was the ambition of France, that caused the war to spread to so wide an extent; and her revenue has in a measure contributed towards its support; but, so enormous has been her expenditure, that her resources must soon be drained, or the vast demands continually making upon her must be satisfied. It should seem, then, since we are so firmly bound both by sea and land, that with the assistance of the powerful friendship with us, who would be ready upon application to our arms, that the wisest measure would be to strain every new in prosecution of the war, as the only means of securing the nation from indelible disgrace.

The belligerent powers being all without allies, for they principals of the war, and the neutral States being all completely excluded from any concern in the negotiation, not can be wanting to disembarass and simplify the business; therefore repeated procrastinations, and delays must be deemed to indicate a certain continuance of hostility.

A correspondent says, that no regulation whatever we produce so immense an ingress of wealth to this country, as abolition of the monopoly of East India goods. Were Company's territorial possessions to be taken into the hands of Government, and were a free trade to be opened with the national debt would not long wear its present tremendous aspect.

Extract of a letter from the Hague, Dec. 26.

"His Prussian Majesty's letter to the deputies of the principal cities of Holland has, for a time at least, suppressed all complaints against the Stadtholder; but still there is resentment rankling in the minds of some people, who, however, seem determined to smother their discontent, rather than provoke the rage of a Sovereign so fixed in his resolution, to implant in his resentment, and so tremendous in his power."

Saturday se'ennight the Right Hon. Admiral Lord Rodney, Knight of the Bath, arrived on a visit at the Earl of Sandwich's at Hinchinbrook, and on Monday morning the Mayor of the borough of Huntingdon, accompanied by a committee of the Aldermen, waited on his Lordship with a copy of the orders of Council, wherein the thanks of the Corporation were unanimously voted him for his many signal services to his country, requesting that he would do them the honour to accept Freedom of the Borough; that he would appoint a day, that purpose, and that he would on that day favour them with his company to dinner. His Lordship received them with utmost politeness, and appointed the Thursday following (being the day after Christmas day) to meet them in Council Hall, at twelve o'clock at noon, in order to take the oath necessary to constitute him a burgess. At twelve o'clock Thursday he came, and was received by a division of the Huntingdonshire militia, quartered at Huntingdon, with all military honours, and by the very numerous spectators, with the heartfelt acclamations. The Freedom was presented to Lordship in a very elegant and highly-finished gold box, Lord Sandwich, recorder of the borough, who told him, he presented it by order of the Mayor and Corporation, a grateful acknowledgment of his brilliant and conspicuous services during the present and two preceding wars; and especially for the lustre he had added to the British flag, by taking and destroying sixteen sail of the line, in the course of two years and a half, and the capture of the commanding Admiral each of the powerful nations with which we were at war; success (observed his Lordship) unparalleled by those of any other of the many very brave and gallant Admirals with whom the naval history of Great Britain so eminently abounds. The noble Earl flattered himself, that he also had some claim to a good opinion of his countrymen, for having, as marine Minister, brought forward, at a most important crisis, Sir George Bridges Rodney, now Lord Rodney, to the service of his country; and happy did his Lordship express himself in a reflection, that he had been a humble instrument in promoting to the command of the British fleet, an officer so brave, so faithful, and so victorious; as effectually to check the ambitious designs of Britain's united foes. Lord Rodney accepted the present with strong marks of apparent gratitude, and expressed peculiar happiness in having the good opinion of his countrymen. It had been, he said, the height of his ambition, during a long life, to serve Great Britain, and the remainder of his life should be devoted to her cause, whenever and wherever he might be called upon by his King and his country; but, in his Lordship, it is incumbent on me, from a natural love of justice, thus publicly to declare, that to the Recorder of this ancient borough, to the Earl of Sandwich, who was then First Lord of the Admiralty, is to be ascribed much of the success of the 12th of April last, when his Majesty's fleet under a command were so happily victorious over the fleet of France. To the industry, zeal, and activity of that nobleman, is the country indebted, for sending against her enemies one of the best equipped and best appointed fleets that ever sailed; to the powerful exertion of those indefatigable qualities in the First Lord of the Admiralty, were I and my whole fleet, as these whole kingdoms, indebted, for that plentiful and speedy supply of naval stores in the West Indies, which enabled us soon to retake and be again ready to put to sea, in the hopes of gaining still further advantages over the enemies of our country.

The Mayor and Corporation then accompanied his Lordship to the Fountain Inn, where an elegant dinner was provided, which near one hundred gentlemen and members of the Corporation were invited to partake. It is enough to say, the conviviality well regulated, and pleasure unalloyed, circulated round this festive board with loyal, friendly, and patriotic warmth, accompanied by a few de joys from the soldiers, and by the music of the militia band. To particularize the various healths, must be superfluous. One, indeed, there was which merits peculiar notice, on account of its allusion to one of the most extraordinary events recorded in the annals of history, viz. the engagement of a British fleet under Sir George Rodney in the West Indies, and of another under the command of Sir Edward Hughes in the East Indies, against the fleets of France, should happen upon the very same day. The toast was given by Lord Sandwich, and was, "The glorious twelfth of



April 1782, on which our commander by sea saved both the East and West Indies. In the evening an illumination took place, the most general and splendid ever remembered upon any occasion; for not only every inhabited house exhibited a blaze of joy, but the very countenances of the multitude seemed, as it were, transparent with the fine feelings of delight and gratitude. The Mayor and Corporation, ever distinguished for their polite and respectful attention to the fair sex, and desirous that they should be partakers of, as well as contributors to, this general joy, invited the favourite naval hero to a ball the next night, where he received that delicate and refined display of female gratitude, which could not but afford additional satisfaction to this favourite son of Neptune.

#### TAX ON FOOTMEN.

To the Right Honourable WILLIAM PITT, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

#### SIR,

THERE are a species of animals in this kingdom, but more abounding in the Metropolis than elsewhere, which become a proper object of taxation:—they are commonly called *footmen*. These shoulder-knot beaux are the most useless part of the creation; and, in their present servile capacity, a disgrace to the honour and dignity of manhood. I need not point out to you in what station of life they could, at this moment, do a benefit to their country. It is obviously written in the want of proper recruits to the army, and in the overgrown multiplicity of the party-coloured gentlemen I allude to.

My advice is, that a tax of 20*l.* be imposed on all men servants in each family, where more than two are kept, in or out of *livery*; but that the tax shall rise to 30*l.* per annum on all above three. This would soon diminish from the halls of the great, on a modern computation, about 50,000 men, fit to bear arms as grenadiers; and about 40,000 of the middling stature; and it would, at the same time, do a most essential service to the kingdom, by opening a door for the admission of that part of the female race, who now seek bread by the prostitution of their persons, because there is none to be had by the labour of their hands.

It really, SIR, is a matter worthy the consideration of a statesman, whether in a time when men are so scarce, it would not redound to the wisdom of the Legislature to adopt a measure, by which our armies would be recruited without the smallest injury to the Public, and with less expence than the mode now in practice; but which, if it failed in that line, must certainly add an immense increase to our revenues, by the payment of a tax, which affected luxury alone.

You are in yourself a moderate man; and I dare venture to affirm, can sit down to your dinner without the attendance of six or eight sons of idleness standing in the pride of powder and livery around your table. Fellows who wallow in laziness and the luxury of beef, porter, and punch, in safety at home, while many fellow-subjects are fighting for them at six-pence a-day, exposed to cold, hunger, and death. I do not in the least exaggerate this matter. It must come home, as I have represented it, to the feelings of every sensible man.

Conceive to yourself a tall, strapping young fellow, six feet high, dancing in silk stockings and Marechal powder from Grosvenor-square to Hanover-square, with the important dispatches of Lady Frizzle to Lady Grizzle, contained in the narrow compass of an inch and a half of card-paper, announcing, by her Ladyship's name being printed on the said card, that she lived in the first square. Here's labour for a grenadier!—and yet with handing a cup of tea, or a slice of bread, or a glass of wine, it is the whole business in which they are ever employed; except they happen to be in the service of an ugly old maid, or a superannuated Dutchess. There are, now that I recollect, some other *manly* occupations in which those shoulder-knot beaux are employed:—they sometimes step the dead march after their ladies, in a fine day, and perhaps carry Pompey in a mullin handkerchief to take the air in the park; and at other times they become a pedestrian statue between the hind-wheels of the coach, standing on a cushion, that the delicate texture of their frames might not be put out of order by the rattling of the carriage, on the vulgar pavement of the city.

I do, therefore most heartily recommend it to you to take this matter into consideration; and while other parts of Government are building ships by a constitutional subscription, do you furnish men by a patriotic taxation!

#### MOLLY MOGG.

PRICES OF CORN AT CORN EXCHANGE, Dec. 29.

Wheat, 38 s. a 53 s. 6 d.	Beans, 26 s. a 28 s.
Barley, 22 s. a 32 s.	Tick Beans, 23 s. a 24 s.
Rye, 34 s. a 35 s. 6 d.	Fares, 26 s. a 28 s.
Oats, 16 s. a 23 s.	Rape Seed, —
Pale Malt, 40 s. a 44 s.	Per Sack.
Amber ditto, 41 s. a 44 s.	Five Flour, 45 s.
Pease, 30 s.	Second Sort, 42 s.
Hog ditto, 28 s. a 29 s.	Third Sort, 38 s. a 40 s.

#### PRICE OF STOCKS, JAN. 2.

Bank Stock, 124.	Ditto New Ann. Int.
4 per cent. Ann. 1777, 78 & 79.	Ditto 1751.
3 per cent. con. Int. 63 & 4.	India Stock, Int.
opening.	3 per cent. Ann.
3 per cent. red. 64 & 64.	India Bonds —
3 per cent. 1726, Int.	Exch. Bills, 15 disc.
Long Ann. Int.	Navy Bills, 13 disc.
Short Ann. 1778, Int.	3 per cent. Scip. —
South Sea Stock,	Omniaum.
3 per cent. Old Ann. —	Prizes, 2 & 4 disc.

#### WIND AT DEAL,

JAN. 1. N. N. W.

#### EDINBURGH.

For ZENO's THIRD LETTER to the CITIZENS of EDINBURGH, see last Page.

Extract of a letter from London, Jan. 2.

“By a private letter from Paris, we have reason to think the peace is not so forward as it was some days since. The French Court seem now to take in dudgeon that we should attempt to treat with Spain on a separate negotiation, when every matter, they say, was so far *en train* for a general pacification. They now would wish to avail themselves of a pretence for breaking those articles, to which, it seems, they repeat having acceded. Since the report of their successes in the East Indies they would wish to resume those concessions which they have made to Great Britain respecting those territories. But how far they can effect their desires can only be known by those who are in possession of what those concessions were—and whether they are signed in a manner so as to put it out of their power to exert their usual finess. All the dependence, therefore, of a peace being place is, whether the treaty was actually signed before the news arrived from the East Indies. Several persons who

pretend to be in the *penetrals* of European politics, imagine that this treaty was in every particular agreed, and would have been now signed, had the India news not arrived to prevent it; and that they now only wait a further confirmation of its authenticity. Should it prove true, and the articles are not really signed, we may expect a war still with the French and the Dutch—a separate peace with Spain—and a sham nugatory war with America, so far as she will be obliged to join with their Gallic alliance.

“The principles on which the Spaniards are disposed to make peace with us, is on account of their entire imbecility to prosecute the war. It is not *any* coming they have with their allies—but merely a necessity they have to exert all their strength to preserve what, if they lose, will precipitate their power beneath the most petty and despicable of all European States. Should they lose their mines, they must become, instead of the lords—the labourers of their neighbours. For having depended upon the mines for the purchase of their subsistence, they are now without the means of political existence. Trade, commerce, and agriculture, are unknown to them. So that until necessity and experience shall furnish them with the principles, they must not only be in a state of national bankruptcy—but that of national indigency. Such is the precarious situation of a state which has depended upon its foreign riches, and not its domestic industry for support.

“It is thought to be one of the first principles of American policy, should a general peace follow, to possess themselves of what part of Spanish America they possibly can. This Spain has foreseen, and seems now to be one very particular reason why she would with that a separate peace might take place between her and Great Britain. She then would, undoubtedly, make it as one particular article in the treaty, that she should assist her in protecting her American dominions. However, we should expect, that if the Congress were men of rational policy; and not of personal avarice and ambition, Spain may rest herself very well assured of their never availing themselves of what must inevitably ruin them as a rising people. But from the hints which Spain have given on this particular, it is to be presumed, that she thinks the rebellion of her colonies has been in a great measure kindled by the treacherous intrigues of the Congress. If this be true, we may probably see the boasted members of the Congress for patriotism and moderation, buying and selling their provinces among themselves, as we purchase now acres of land in England. Then, with the wealth they may acquire from their Southern depredations, they may buy those countries of each other, who may be inclined to retire and enjoy the fruits of their tyranny.

“Mr Falkner, it is currently reported, will be appointed to the place of Ambassador to Holland, in case a peace takes place before the commencement of another campaign.

“It was this day said, that the Bank refused to discount some foreign bills, to a large amount, the money raised by which, it is said, was meant to be used in speculating upon the rise and fall of stocks at this critical moment.

“The few days of Ministry must soon expire—of necessity the public will hear whether we are to have peace, or to continue the war, in a fortnight at farthest.”

This day, the trade from London, under convoy of the Flirt floop of war, arrived safe in Leith Roads. A number of other vessels, destined for different ports, took the advantage of this opportunity, and accompanied the Flirt and her convoy from the Nore.

Died, in the East Indies, Captain Colin Mackenzie of the 100th regiment, son to Thomas Mackenzie, Esq; of Applecross. His friends and relations will be pleased to accept of this notification of his death.

On Monday and Tuesday the 23d and 24th of December, a farmer near Lanchester, about twelve miles south west from Newcastle, was employed in leading his crop of oats from off about 200 acres of land: A circumstance not in memory; yet, what is more remarkable, this crop was in better condition than what the same farmer had earthen, owing to the late favourable weather.

Agreeable to the hint in our paper of Monday last we learn that the farmers seem determined to bring their wheat to market as fast as possible, as the act for allowing the importation of corn, will, it is evident, considerably lower the prices.

From the fineness of the weather, the farmers in Northumberland have been remarkably busy in preparing their ground for seed: and we learn, that a great quantity has been sown in the course of last week.

Extract of a letter from Dublin, Dec. 31.

“The defalcation at the Barrack Board, which at present no less astonishes than engrosses public attention, is laid already to amount to no less than 11,000*l.* and as this is reported to arise from a bare view only of the present year's account, how great must be supposed the amount of the whole defalcation of this Board for many years past?

“It is confidently reported, that his Excellency Lord Temple has not only discovered mal-practices at the Barrack Board, but that the accounts of the War Office have greatly excited his Lordship's indignation, and will be scrutinized with an attention that gives no small alarm to a certain S—y.

“The principal incident, which, it is said, has alarmed Government, and decided his Excellency, was a petition from a Quaker, who complained that a large sum of money was due to him from the Barrack Board, which, though a considerable time had elapsed since it was owing, and he had made numberless applications for payment, he either received no answer to them, or such unsatisfactory ones, as made him despair of being paid his just demand, unless the Lord Lieutenant interposed in his behalf. His Excellency, who is always accessible, desired the Quaker to leave his address; next day he sent for him, and asked him, “why he had not been paid his money?” (200*l.*) “Thou shouldst know that,” replied the Quaker. “And I “surely shall know it,” said his Excellency; “and at any “rate you shall be paid.” He immediately went in person to the Barrack Office: The confusion and astonishment of the clerks may be better imagined than described; all was hurry and dismay; none of the Board were present, and information was not to be had. “I desire,” said his Excellency, “that “the treasurer's accounts may be made up for my inspection “by to-morrow morning.” The Clerks observed, that, with their number of hands, it would be impossible to have them ready in the time. “Empty double the number of Clerks, or “treble, if necessary; but I insist on having the accounts to- “morrow.” The accounts were accordingly produced, when a defalcation on the part of the Treasurer appeared, to a great amount; in one article only, the sum of 4000*l.* The balance in the Treasurer's hands was demanded, but could not be paid. The law agent was immediately ordered to sue the defaulter.”

To the Printer of the CALLEDONIAN MERCURY.

#### SIR,

WHEN Acts of exalted benevolence come within our notice, it is at all times a duty we owe society, to hold them up as objects of imitation. It is particularly so in this iron age, when the following will, I fear, stand unequalled and alone.

A gentleman of this country, now a merchant of the first eminence in London, on being informed of the distressed situation of the industrious poor, owing to the almost total failure of their crops, immediately ordered the full year's rent of a considerable estate to be discounted to the tenants, and the whole produce of a very large farm to be divided among them. He has also declared his intention of employing some thousand pounds in the importation of corn, to be sold at prime cost, by which most probably the lives of as many thousands will be preserved.

I would fain indulge the hope, that those to whom the Great Father of All has intrusted the means, will follow the example of this beneficent man. Then will they become the true ornaments of their country, and blessings to their fellow-creatures. I am, Sir,

Yours most humble servant,

INVERNESS, Dec. 28. } MERCATOR.

#### LEITH SHIPPING.

##### ARRIVED.

Jan. 6. Hawke, St Clair, from Hartlepool, with grain and cheese. Betty and Peggy, Robertson, from Berwick, with wheat, &c. Adriana, Staal, from Orkney, in ballast. The Concord, Whitehead, from Guernsey, with wine and cork. Star, Ritchie, from London, with goods. Endeavour, Paden, from ditto, with ditto.

By Desire of the Right Honourable and Most Worshipful, DAVID STEUART EARL OF BUCHAN, GRAND MASTER OF THE ANCIENT AND HONOURABLE FRATERNITY OF FREE MASONS, On WEDNESDAY next, January 8, will be presented, A NEW PRELUDE.

The Characters by Mr Sutherland, Mr Kelly, Mr Sparks, Mr Hallion, Mr Tannet, And a Gentleman, being his first Appearance. After which will be performed the favourite Comedy of The BROTHERS.

Sir Benjamin Dove, Mr JOHNSON; Young Belfield, Mr WOODS; Belfield, sen. Mr Kelly; Pateron, Mr Sutherland; Old Goodwin, Mr Sparks; Phillips, Mr Hallion; Francis, Mr Tannet; Skiff, Mr Simpson; 1st Sailor, Mr Banks; 2d Sailor, Mr J. Bland; 3d Sailor, Mr Bland, junior; And Captain Ironsides, Mr FOWLER, being his first Appearance these two Years.

Sophia, Mrs Woods; Lady Dove, Mrs Borden; Lucy Waters, Mrs Mills; Fanny Goodwin, Mrs Tannet; Kitty, Mrs Mountstout; And Violetta, Mrs SPARKS. Between the Acts, some favourite MASONS SONGS, by Mr Tannet and Mr Hallion—The Brethren will join in Chorus.

To which will be added, the Farce of The APPRENTICE.

Dick, (the Apprentice), Mr WARD; Wingate, Mr Sparks; Gargle, Mr Sutherland; President of the Sporting Club, Mr Kelly; First Spouter, Mr Tannet; Irish Spouter, Mr Hallion; Scots Spouter, Mr Bland; Watchman, Mr Simpson; Porter, Mr Bland, junior; Simon, Mr Banks; And Charlotte, Mrs MILLS.

Tickets to be had, and place for the boxes taken, at the Office of the Theatre, from ten to three o'clock.

#### COUNTY OF LANARK.

HEADS of BILLS respecting Freehold Qualifications, and the better ordering the Fencible Men of Scotland, having been lately transmitted to the Convener of the County, accompanied with requests from the respective Committees at Edinburgh, to lay the same before the County for their consideration—The Heritors of the County are therefore desired to meet, for the above purpose, at Lanark, on Thursday the 16th day of January instant, at 12 o'clock noon.

#### ARGYLE-SHIRE.

THE Freeholders and Heritors of Argyleshire are requested to meet at Inverary on the 22d day of January current, to take under consideration the report of the Committee appointed by the last General Meeting with regard to Freehold Qualifications: At the same time, it is proposed to lay before them a second draught of a bill for the better ordering the Fencible Men in that part of Great Britain called Scotland as proposed by the Committee of Noblemen and Gentlemen at Edinburgh. By Order of Robert Campbell, Esq; Convener, January, Jan. 2. 1783. LACH. CAMPBELL.

Lands in the Shires of Roxburgh & Berwick TO SELL.

TO be Sold, the Lands and Estate of GREENKNOW, and Town and Lands of WEST GORDON, and Mill thereof, lying in the parish of Gordon and shire of Berwick.

The estate consists of upwards of 2300 acres, of a good soil, and capable of great improvement, and is conveniently situated within a few miles of the towns of Kelso, Lauder, Melrose, and Greenlaw.

The present rental of the estate, after deduction of minister's stipend and schoolmaster's salary, amounting together to 21. 7s. 5d. is 420*l.* 14*sd.* Part of the lands hold of the Crown, and part hold blench of the Duke of Gordon.

Also these Lands of MAXTON, possessed by — and — tenants thereof, lying within the parish of Maxton and shire of Roxburgh. The lands consist of 280 acres or thereby, whereof about 196 were infold before the division of the town and territory of Maxton. They lie near the turnpike road betwixt Melrose and Jedburgh, are of good quality, and may be much improved.

For particulars apply to Archibald Gibson writer to the signet, who will show the rentals and title-deeds.

#### LANDS OF ADAMTOWN.

To be SOLD by public roup, within the Exchange Coffeehouse, Edinburgh, on Wednesday the 29th day of January next, betwixt the hours of five and six afternoon.

THE Lands and Estate of ADAMTOWN, and

Ten Acres or thereby of Land, part of the great meadow called SANQUHAR BOGUE, lying in the parishes of Monkton and St Bosvois, and shire of Ayr, and within five miles of the boroughs of Irvine and Kilmarnock, and thence of Ayr.

As also, The SUPERIORITY of Goldings, Crookside, Hillhouse, Laidykir, and Ladylands; and the Patronage of the parish of Monkton.

The lands hold of the Crown, are of a very rich quality, lie exceedingly compact, and are properly inclosed and subdivided with ditches and hedges, which are in a thriving condition. The yearly value of the estate (valuing the lands in the proprietor's natural possession at a reasonable rate) is about 421*l.* sterling.

On the estate there are 40 acres natural wood, (not included in the above rental) which will soon be ready for cutting: besides which, there are a considerable number of very old trees, properly disposed around a commodious modern mansion-house, judiciously situated, and commanding an extensive prospect of a fertile and well-cultivated country, the frith of Clyde, island of Arran, and rock of Bide, and, at a proper distance from the mansion-house, there is a very good kitchen garden and orchard, well stocked with fruit-trees of the best kinds.

For the encouragement of purchasers, the estate will be exposed at the price of 8000*l.* sterling.

The prospect of writs to the estate are perfectly clear, and may be seen in the hands of Thomas Adair clerk to the signet, to whom any intending to purchase may apply for further particulars.



## TO THE CITIZENS OF EDINBURGH.

Gentlemen,

IN my last we touched on the principles of liberty and of the British constitution, so far as they were applicable to our purpose; and to these we contrasted the situation of the citizens of Edinburgh. If the conclusions there inferred were just, with injustice would we be chargeable to ourselves and to our posterity, were we not to attempt, at least, a melioration of our case.

I might here confirm what I have said in my former letters, by the testimonies of innumerable writers; but, where the facts are self-evident, testimony is not required. A passage in Montesquieu, however, is so peculiarly applicable to our present subject, that I must beg leave to bring it under observation. The credit of this author is indisputable, and his authority must have weight.

"As in a free state (says Montesquieu) every man, who is supposed a free agent, ought to be his own governor, so the legislative power should reside in the whole body of the people. But, since this is impossible in large states, and in small ones is subject to inconveniences, it is fit the people should act by their representatives, what they cannot act by themselves."

All the inhabitants of the several districts ought to have a privilege of voting at the election of a representative, except those who are in so mean a situation as to be deemed to have no will of their own.

"Though the people ought not to have any personal share in the government, yet ought they not to be excluded from choosing representatives, which is within their reach. For though few can tell the exact degree of men's capacities, yet there are none but are capable of knowing, in general, whether the person they chuse is better qualified than most of his neighbours."

These quotations afford a striking exhibition of what we want, and what we ought to obtain.

But, Gentlemen, it is not on hypothesis, it is not on the abstract opinions of writers, that we found our claims to vote in the appointment of a delegate. These claims arise from natural right, and this natural right has been possessed by every free and independent people.

Can the representation for the city of Edinburgh be termed conformable to the rights of a free and independent people? Can it be termed a fair or complete representation for the inhabitants of this district? A lover of truth must affirm, that it is not. If this representation were chosen by the unbiased voices of the majority of the citizens, then might we be classed in the catalogue of free communities. But when such representation is chosen by a small number of men in our city, the very form of liberty is departed from us. With us, the Town-Council alone possess all. They appoint directors, not only for themselves, but for us.

It may, perhaps, be alledged by the advocates for the Council, that they have obtained this exclusive right of election, either by usage, or by statute, or by both; and to divest them now of what is sanctioned by use, or conferred by statute, would be to strip them of their legal privileges. This is a feeble argument, and confutes itself.

Whether the Council has acquired such right by usage or statute, it matters not. Evident it is, that no usage could deprive us of our natural and civil rights: And no statute could alienate from us rights in themselves unalienable. The right of being self-directed, or of chusing a delegate in the national convention, is a right of nature, which no positive laws could wrest from us, which no generation could give away to the prejudice of a succeeding generation, and which, when lost or surrendered, can at any time be lawfully resumed. By whatever authority, therefore, we have hitherto been restrained from the exercise of our natural rights, we still possess a power of resumption.

All just power originates from the people; and for their convenience and benefit were governments originally instituted. Magistrates are the trustees of the people, vested with powers for the advantage of the communities over which they preside: they, therefore, can exercise no species of power that is incompatible with the privileges of the people; and if they should be found to have usurped any such power, the people, as the original trustees, have a title to revoke it.

Gentlemen, in my next, I shall attempt to point out some of the evil consequences of lodging the power of election in the hands of a few electors. In the mean time, permit me to subscribe myself your very humble servant,

Edin. Dec. 31.

Z E N O.

P. S. I am extremely happy to be favoured with the approbation of CIVIS. By his diction and sentiment he discovers taste, erudition, and discernment, which to me greatly enhance the value of his commendation. To CIVIS, therefore, I cannot more emphatically express my thanks, than in the nervous language of the Master of eloquence, *Lætus sum a te laudato viro laudari.*

\* These and the foregoing arguments strike with equal force against that pernicious practice of allowing the Town Council to elect their successors in office. But, as this is not the subject of our present enquiry, we shall leave it, without further censure, till a more favourable opportunity.

## GREENOCK SHIPPING.

ARRIVED,

Jan. 3. Cunningham, Henry, from St Lucia, with sugar, &c. Peggy, M'Neil, from the Buß fishing, with herrings. Janet, M'Kay, from ditto, with ditto.

SAILED

Warra, Glaister, from Whitehaven, with goods. Satisfaction armed ship, on a cruise.

THE Convener of the County of AYR having received from the General Committee of Landholders at Edinburgh, the Heads of two different Bills for reforming the abuses in Freehold Qualifications, and a Report of the proceedings of the General Committee relative thereto; and having also received from the General Committee at Edinburgh, the Heads of a Bill for a constitutional Internal Defence for Scotland, hereby desires that the Noblemen, Gentlemen, and Freeholders of this County may meet at Ayr on Wednesday the 15th January 1783, to take these matters under their consideration. By order of the Convener of the County,

JOHN BOSWELL, Clk.

## PETER AND FRANCIS FORRESTER,

LEITH.

HAVE just now imported, and are selling at their Warehouse—  
Russia Iron sorted, 2, 2½, 3, and 3½ inch flat.  
Gottenburgh Iron, sorted sizes.  
Fine twelve-head St Peterburgh Flax.  
Hemp Codilla, three different qualities.  
A large cargo of very good Memel Logs, different lengths.  
N. B. At their warehouse within the Exchange, Edinburgh, a large assortment of Russia Sheetings, Diapers, Towels, Wine-rubbers and Kitchen Towelling, and some Damask-Honey of the very best quality, to be sold in casks or single pieces.  
Some very good Russia Soap.

## AN AUCTION OF HABERDASHERY GOODS, By Mr HAY,

TO begin upon Wednesday next, the 8th instant, at the shop of the deceased Mrs Mackenzie, south side of the Luckenbooths, consisting of the following:  
Printed Mullins and Cottons. Black and Coloured Silk Handkerchiefs.  
Plain Mullins. Silk Petticoats.  
Modes and Periwigs. Mode Goggles.  
Thread Laces. Scarlet Fringe ditto.  
Black ditto. Bombazettes & Norwich Crapes.  
India Twel. Flannels and Freezes.  
Dimitties. Furr Trimmings for Cloaks.  
Italian Crape. Black and coloured Mantoes.  
Poplins.  
Durants and Temmies.

With many other Articles, in great variety. As the Goods must positively be all sold off, great bargains may be expected. The auction to begin at eleven o'clock, and continue till three each day. The Goods to be put up in small lots, for the convenience of purchasers.

Catalogues to be had at the place of sale.

EXCISE OFFICE, EDINBURGH, 3d January 1783.

By order of the Hon. the COMMISSIONERS of EXCISE.

THERE is to be exposed to SALE by public auction, at AYR, on Friday the 10th current, the following Quantities of

EXCISEABLE GOODS, lately condemned before the

Justices,

366 Gallons Foreign Brandy, 31 Gallons Foreign Geneva,

30 Ditto Foreign Rum, 55 Ditto Aquavite,

AND

The Materials of 32 Copper Stills.

The goods may be viewed at the Excise Warehouse on the morning of the day of sale.

## FORFAR SHIRE.

By Colonel ALEXANDER DUNCAN of Lundie, Convener of the Commissioners of Supply of the county of Forfar.

THE Commissioners of Supply and Heritors of the county of Forfar are requested to meet at Forfar, on Wednesday the 15th of January instant, to take under their consideration the Heads of Two Bills intended to be presented to Parliament, for correcting certain abuses, and altering and amending the laws which regulate the qualifications of Freeholders entitled to elect or be elected to serve in Parliament for Scotland. Also, a Report of the proceedings of the General Meeting of Landholders and Delegates from several counties in Scotland, for reforming the abuses in freehold qualifications. The Chief Magistrates of the several towns who some time ago applied to the Convener to call a Meeting of the county, to consider of a plan for supplying the county with victual, it is hoped, will attend, and lay before the Meeting such schemes as they may think most proper to answer the above purpose. Copies of the bills, &c. are lodged in the hands of the Town-clerks of Forfar, Dundee, Montrose, Arbroath, and Brechin, to be shown to such gentlemen who call for them before the Meeting.

## A HOUSE in Charles-street to be Sold.

TO be SOLD by public voluntary roup, within the Exchange coffee-house, Edinburgh, upon Monday the 3d day of February next, at six o'clock afternoon.

That NEAT LODGING or DWELLING-HOUSE, being the top story of the new tenement in the south corner of Charles-street, presently possessed by Professor Cumming, consisting of a good dining-room, two neat bed-rooms, with closets to each; another small room and kitchen, on the first floor, and two garret rooms, and closet above, with other conveniences. There are also two large cellars belonging to the house.

The progress of writs, and articles of roup, to be seen in the hands of Robert Trotter writer to the signet, to whom intending purchasers may apply for further information.

## BREWERY and HOUSES in LEITH.

TO BE SOLD,

THAT Large Brewery, Malt-kiln, Kilm, Copper, and Brewing Utensils, good Dwelling-house and Garden, and sundry other small Houses, lying in Leith, in that part called Lee's Quarter, all as possessed by Mrs Mitchell and Son, and their tenants: As also, a Piece of Ground, and House built thereon, lying in the Links of Leith, as feued from William Mitchell merchant there.

Mrs Mitchell and Son will show the whole premises, and the title-deeds are to be seen in the hands of Andrew Hallyburton writer to the signet, one of the trustees for their creditors; with whom is also lodged the deed of accession to be signed by the creditors.

## SUNDRY FARMS TO LET.

THE following FARMS, lying in the parish and barony of Primrose or Carrington, seven miles south from Edinburgh, and three from Dalkeith, are to be LET; the entry to commence immediately.

I. The Farm of REDSIDE, containing 288 acres of arable land, all inclosed and divided by stone dykes, fencible for sheep, and which, for many years, have been in pasture, and in the occupation of the proprietor.

II. The Grounds at Primrose, called the OLD INCLOSURES consisting of about 44 acres and upwards, divided into three inclosures, two of which are possessed by Mr Newbigging, and the other by Captain Christie, having been in grass for many years past.

III. The Farm of SHIELDS of CAPELAW, with its mill garden, or orchard, all inclosed, in the occupation of the proprietor, and containing about 45 acres of arable land, wholly in pasture now.

IV. The Wauk or Fuller's Mill of Primrose, with the Land, Houses, Dying Copper, &c. lately possessed by Thomas Hall and Son; the entry to commence also immediately.

AS ALSO, There will be LET, the following Lands in the parish of Dalmeny, and shire of Linlithgow, seven miles west from Edinburgh, The Lands of LEUCHOLD, containing about 123 acres of excellent land, sufficiently fenced, and divided into seven inclosures by sunken fences faced with stone. As also, part of the inclosed grounds adjoining thereto, and lying from thence to Dalmeny, along the west side of the turnpike-road southwards to Dolphington-bridge, containing 205 acres and upwards of as fine rich land as is in that country.

These grounds in the parish of Dalmeny are proposed to be let in one or two farms, with houses, &c. &c. as may be agreed on. They are now and have been many years in pasture, but may be let for tillage, particularly the grounds of Dalmeny, if parties can agree on the terms and rent, which will be high, as the lands are valuable, i. e. from 30 s. to 50 s. per acre on lease.

The salmon, trout, and smelt or spey fishery in Cramond water, from the bridge to the lower end of the fish, will be let on reasonable terms to real fishers who mean to live by the business.

The lands in the barony of Primrose will be shown by Alexander Tweedie at Primrose; and the lands at Leuchold and Dalmeny by Mr Melville at Leuchold-house, near Queensferry. And, for further particulars persons intending to offer may apply to Mr Mitchell, jun. Nicolson's street, Edinburgh, who has power to let the said farms.

## SALE of LANDS in Roxburgh Shire.

TO be SOLD, by public roup, within the British Coffee-house, Edinburgh, on Wednesday the 22d day of January current, betwixt the hours of five and six o'clock afternoon.

The Lands of LANGSIDE, lying in the parish of Boudon, and county of Roxburgh.

These Lands are wholly arable, lie contiguous, and are all inclosed with stone dykes. There is a convenient and suitable standing of houses, and some valuable ash and elm trees upon the premises. For encouragement of purchasers, the upset price will be L. 950.

For further particulars apply to Mr L. Grant, accountant in Edinburgh, trustee for Mr Jamieson's creditors, or to John Tawle, writer in Edinburgh.

## SALE OF A TAVERN IN EDINBURGH.

TO be SOLD, by public voluntary roup, within the Exchange Coffee-house of Edinburgh, upon Wednesday the 22d day of January 1783, betwixt the hours of five and six afternoon.

That HOUSE or TAVERN at the head of the Anchor Close, nearly opposite to the Cross, formerly possessed by Francis Wores, and now by John Gordon, the present yearly rent wherof is only £1. 10 s. Sterling, though lately set at 32 l.; and, from its capital situation, and other conveniences, there is little doubt that it will draw a rent considerably higher than what it now yields.

The title-deeds, with the articles of roup, to be seen in the hands of Alexander Mackenzie writer to the signet, who is empowered to conclude a private bargain.

The House may be seen at any time.

## INN AT HAMILTON.

TO be LET, and entered to at Whit Sunday first. That well-frequented INN in the town of Hamilton, with all the offices and back-grounds, as last possessed by the deceased William Burns, the proprietor.

For particulars apply to James Burns at Hamilton, or Archibald Burns writer, at Mr James Forrester's writes to the signet. There is also for sale, a very neat POST CHaise.

## HOUSES TO SELL.

TO be SOLD by public roup, within John's coffee-house, Edinburgh, on Wednesday the 15th day of January current, betwixt the hours of five and seven afternoon.

For the encouragement of purchasers, and to insure a roup, the upset sums are put down much below the value.

The following GREAT TENEMENT of LAND, called CAMPBELL'S LAND, lying in the Canonate of Edinburgh, upon the north side of the High Street, opposite to Lady Milton's lodging, in the following lots, all well lighted.

I. The Ground Storey, consisting of a large parlour, another ditto or bed-room; with bed-closet, servants-room, common cellar, two wine cellars with catcombs, laundry and coal cellar within the house; the two last with separate entries.

The Storey above, communicating by a stair from within, consists of six handsome rooms, kitchen, and servants rooms, closets, larder and pantry, all which were some time possessed by the late Robert Gardiner, Esq; the proprietor, afterwards by Sir James Riddell, and now by Doctor Christie. Upset price 400 l. Sterling.

II. The Second Storey of the said tenement, presently possessed by Mrs Murray, and insured in the Friendly Insurance Office, and premium paid up, consisting of five genteel rooms, kitchen, servants room, and cellar. Upset price 250 l. Sterling.

III. The Third Storey of the said tenement, lately possessed by Mr Newton, consisting of four genteel rooms, closets, kitchen, and cellar. Upset price 150 l. Sterling.

N. B. ITEM, A Back House on the same floor, rented by Mrs Moncrieff at 5 l. per annum; to be put up with the above, so the upset sum of lot III. will now be 200 l. Sterling.

IV. The Fourth, or Uppermost Storey, presently possessed by Mr Paterson advocate, consisting of six genteel rooms, closets, kitchen, garret, and cellar. Upset price 150 l. Sterling.

There are in the close, two stables, with four stalls each; hay-loft, and two coach-houses; another stable with three stalls and hay-loft; also another stable for six stalls and hay-loft, which will be sold separately or with the lodgings. The upset prices will be very moderate.

As also the following other SUBJECTS, lying in the burgh of Linlithgow, opposite to the cross, and where there are good markets, viz.

I. That large, elegant, and commodious Lodging, with the offices and gardens, now converted into pleasure ground, and sloping banks and walks, some time possessed by James Glen, Esq; of Longcroft, consisting of the following conveniences, viz.

First Floor, kitchen, scullery, and servants rooms, or lobby, with a fire place; parlour with a large press in it, laundry, and cellar.

Second Floor, large lobby, dining-room about 31 feet long and about 21 feet broad, and 15 feet high, elegantly finished, with a large bay window in the west end of it, and above the same two bed rooms and a closet. These command an agreeable view of the loch and country to the west and north; and on the same floor with the dining-room, a drawing-room and a bed-room, (each with large press) and a dressing closet with a fire place.

Third Floor, two bed-rooms, a dressing closet with a fire place, two rooms for servants; and above the same other two rooms and closets.

The above Subjects are pleasantly and delightfully situated, having easy communication with the Loth, Piel, and royal palace of Linlithgow; are within twelve miles of the city of Edinburgh, by a good turnpike road, and fit to accommodate a large and genteel family. Upset price, L. 400 Sterling.

II. That TENEMENT lying in the said burgh of Linlithgow, at a small distance from the said great lodging, with the stables, cellar, and garden, as presently possessed by John Inglis, officer of excise, and Thomas Currie, vintner, excepting the undermost half of the said garden, a little stable, and a space of ground for a midden-stead thereto, already sold. Upset price L. 163 Sterling.

The progress of writs and conditions of roup may be seen in the hands of Allan Clarke, writer to the signet, to whom, or to Thomas Cockburne, writer to the signet, any person inclining to purchase may apply. And the subjects in Canonate will be shown by John Rose grocer, second shop below the entry to Campbell's close; and those in Linlithgow, by James Bunce Wright there.

And such of the creditors of Humphrey Bland Gairdner, as have not yet lodged notes of their claims, and of the vouchers thereof, and oaths of verity thereon, with the said Thomas Cockburne, or Allan Clarke, are requested to do the same without delay.

## BY ADJOURNMENT, AND PRICES TO BE REDUCED.

TO be SOLD, by public voluntary roup, within John's Coffee-house in Edinburgh, on Tuesday the 28th of January current, betwixt the hours of five and six afternoon.

The Six Merk Land of HOLM of DALSKAIRTH, and Four Fifth Parts contiguous thereto of the Six Merk Land of DRUNGANS, lying in the parish of Troqueur, and stewartry of Kirkcubright, within three miles of Dumfries.

The situation of this estate is extremely beautiful. It contains about 500 Scots acres, of which above 50 acres are covered with wood, particularly old oak, to a very considerable value.

The Lands of Holm hold blench of the Crown, and the Lands of Drungans of a subject superior. The tenements of both are valued. The upset price of this estate is now 8000 l. Sterling.

AS ALSO, That inclosure adjoining to the town of Dumfries called I. ARIPOTTS, consisting of about three acres of meadow ground, declared teind-free by decree of the commission of teinds. The upset price to be 150 l.

The progress, rental, and a plan of the lands may be seen by applying to William Dick writer to the signet; and Mr Maxwell of Carruchan will give information as to any other particulars.